GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4284
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Crushing Capacity of Oilseeds
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether edible-oil industry in the country is estimated to be worth Rs. 1,50,000 crore and more annually and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether there is possibility of further increasing the worth of the edible oil industry and if so, the response of the Government thereto;
(c) whether increasing import of oilseeds in place of edible oils in the country will help in generating additional employment opportunities along with boosting the industrial sector and if so, the response of the Government thereto;
(d) whether the oilseed crushing capacity of the country is less than the edible oil requirement if so, the details thereof indicating the total oilseed crushing capacity in 2016; and
(e) whether the oilseed crushing capacity of the country has remained less due to non-availability of oilseeds in adequate quantity and if so, the total percentage of the average annual oilseed crushing capacity being utilised in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)
(a): Yes, Madam. As per Industry sources, the domestic turnover of the edible-oil industry is estimated over Rs. 200,000 crores including import-export turnover of about Rs. 85,000 crores per annum.
(b) & (c): Crushing of oilseeds is being done in the unorganized as well as organized sector. Domestic crushing and solvent extraction industry's capacity utilization is hardly 30% to 35% due to shortage of raw material. In order to make the country self-reliant and arrest the decline of production and productivity of oilseeds the farmers are supported with modern technologies and seed infrastructure. Increase in the availability of oilseeds will augment the overall utilization of installed capacity in the country thereby generating additional employment opportunities.
(d): The crushing capacity of oilseed in the country is less than the edible oil requirement. As per data available with the edible oil industry, the crushing capacity of oilseeds in the country is around 36 million tonnes.
(e): The major reason for under-utilization of crushing capacity is inadequate oilseed production leading to insufficient raw material. As per industry sources, the estimated utilization of oilseed crushing capacity is around 30%.
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